



JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF MARIJUANA POLICY  
162 STATE HOUSE STATION  
19 UNION STREET  
FIRST FLOOR  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0162

ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL SERVICES

KIRSTEN LC FIGUEROA  
COMMISSIONER

OFFICE OF MARIJUANA POLICY

ERIK GUNDERSEN  
DIRECTOR

August 7, 2020

**Via Certified Mail and USPS First Class Mail**

Deena Burgess



**Subject: Notice of Suspension of Registry Identification Card(s)**

Dear Ms. Burgess:

The Maine Department of Administrative & Financial Services, Office of Marijuana Policy (Department) is responsible for the administration and oversight of the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Program (MMMP). Pursuant to its authority under 18-691 C.M.R. ch. 2 § 10(C), the Department immediately suspends the following Registry Identification Card(s) up to 180 days as of the date of this letter: CGR27692. The period of suspension is intended to allow the Department the ability to complete a thorough investigation while ensuring public health and safety. The period of suspension may be adjusted or amended as necessary. All registered caregiver conduct authorized under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act must cease immediately, including without limitation authorized conduct by caregiver assistants associated with your Registration Identification Card, if any.

**I. Justification for suspension:**

The Department has received reports alleging non-compliance. These reports indicate there is a likelihood that criminal behavior has occurred in connection to caregiver activities. The Department intends to conduct a thorough investigation and review of this matter.

The Department's decision to suspend your Registry Identification Card(s) is based on the following information:

- On or about July 21, 2020 federal and state law enforcement agents executed a series of search warrants on registered caregivers at various locations throughout Maine.
- Search warrants were issued by the United States District Court in the District of Maine.
- Search warrants are issued upon a finding of probable cause to believe that a crime is being or has been committed, and further that there is probable cause to believe evidence of that crime is located at the specific location.
- Search warrants are only issued after being affirmed under oath by a law enforcement officer or officer of the court, followed by review and approval of an independent magistrate or judge.

- The Department has determined that you are one of the individuals upon which a search warrant was executed.

The Department has determined that the potential severity in nature of this criminal investigation by law enforcement requires immediate suspension of your caregiver registration. The Department reserves the right to take further administrative action pending its investigation. If you are currently in possession of medical marijuana relating to registered caregiver activities, you must contact the Department immediately to discuss transfer or surrender.

Please immediately return your Registry Identification Card(s) to:

Department of Administrative & Financial Services  
Office of Marijuana Policy  
Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Program  
162 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0162

## **II. Registration Suspension and Right to Request an Informal Hearing:**

Pursuant to 22 M.R.S. §2430-F, the Department may suspend or revoke a registry identification card for violation of Chapter 558-C and the rules adopted by the Department. A person who has had authorization for conduct under Chapter 558-C suspended due to failure to comply with Chapter 558-C and rules adopted by the Department may request an informal hearing. If you would like to request an informal hearing, please notify the Department in writing within thirty (30) calendar days of the suspension effective date at the address information provided above.

Sincerely,



Vernon Malloch  
Director of Compliance  
Office of Marijuana Policy

Cc: file